

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered). Please AMEND claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 11, 13, and 17 in accordance with the following:

1. (currently amended) A power supply control method in a system in which a power supply control device is provided for each of a plurality of information processing devices connected to a network, comprising:

a representative information processing device of the plurality of information processing devices issuing, according to a predetermined power-up/down schedule of said representative information processing device and other information processing devices, a power-up instruction to each power supply control device of the other information processing devices upon each activation;

instructing each of the other information processing devices to perform a power-down process, notifying each of the other information processing devices of a next power-up date and time, and having each power supply control device enter a next power-up date and time each time a power-down date and time comes; and

each power supply control device of said other information processing devices performing a power-up process ~~upon receipt of the power-up instruction or when the entered~~ power-up date and time comes.

2. (currently amended) A power supply control method in a system in which a power supply control device is provided for each of a plurality of information processing devices connected to a network, comprising:

a representative information processing device of the plurality of information processing devices issuing, according to a predetermined power-up/down schedule of said representative information processing device and other information processing devices, a power-up instruction to each power supply control device of the other information processing devices upon each activation;

notifying each power supply control device of the other information processing devices of

a next power-up date and time, having each power supply control device enter the next power-up date and time, and issuing a power-down instruction to each of the other information processing devices each time a power-down date and time comes; and

each power supply control device of said other information processing devices performing a power-up process ~~upon receipt of the power-up instruction or when the entered~~ power-up date and time comes.

3. (previously presented) The power supply control method according to claim 1, wherein said power-up date and time given to each of said power supply control devices of said other information processing devices is obtained by any of said information processing devices or each of said other information processing devices automatically adding an arbitrary margin to a power-up date and time in said predetermined power-up/down schedule.

4. (previously presented) The power supply control method according to claim 2, wherein said power-up date and time given to each of said power supply control devices of said other information processing devices is obtained by any of said information processing devices or each of said other information processing devices automatically adding an arbitrary margin to a power-up date and time in said predetermined power-up/down schedule.

5. (currently amended) A power supply control method in a system in which a power supply control device is provided for each of a plurality of information processing devices connected to a network, comprising:

a representative information processing device of the plurality of information processing devices issuing, according to a predetermined power-up/down schedule of said representative information processing device and other information processing devices, a power-up instruction to each power supply control device of the other information processing devices upon each activation;

instructing each of the other information processing devices to perform a power-down process, notifying each of the other information processing devices of a next power-up date and time, and having each power supply control device enter a next power-up date and time each time a power-down date and time comes; and

each power supply control device of said other information processing devices performing a power-up process ~~upon receipt of the power-up instruction or when the entered~~ power-up date and time comes;

wherein said representative information processing device does not give the power-down instruction and the next power-up date and time before a power-down permission condition entered in advance of a current and other information processing devices is satisfied although the power-down date and time comes.

6. (currently amended) A power supply control method in a system in which a power supply control device is provided for each of a plurality of information processing devices connected to a network, comprising:

a representative information processing device of the plurality of information processing devices issuing, according to a predetermined power-up/down schedule of said representative information processing device and other information processing devices, a power-up instruction to each power supply control device of the other information processing devices upon each activation;

notifying each power supply control device of the other information processing devices of a next power-up date and time, having each power supply control device enter the next power-up date and time, and issuing a power-down instruction to each of the other information processing devices each time a power-down date and time comes; and

each power supply control device of said other information processing devices performing a power-up process ~~upon receipt of the power-up instruction or when the entered~~ power-up date and time comes;

wherein said representative information processing device does not give the power-down instruction and the next power-up date and time before a power-down permission condition entered in advance of a current and other information processing devices is satisfied although the power-down date and time comes.

7. (original) The power supply control method according to claim 1 , wherein said power-up instruction or power-down instruction is sequentially issued at predetermined startup intervals or power-down intervals.

8. (original) The power supply control method according to claim 2, wherein said power-up instruction or power-down instruction is sequentially issued at predetermined startup intervals or power-down intervals.

9. (previously presented) An information processing apparatus which is a

representative information processing device in a plurality of information processing devices in a computer system in which a power supply control device is provided for each of the plurality of information processing devices connected to a network, comprising:

a power-up/down schedule storage unit storing predetermined power-up/down schedules of said representative information processing device and other information processing devices;

a power-up instruction unit instructing each power supply control device of other information processing devices to perform a power-up process at each activation process; and

a power-down instruction unit instructing each power supply control device to perform a power-down process and notifying each power supply control device of a next power-up date and time each time power-down date and time comes according to said predetermined power-up/down schedule.

10. (original) The information processing device according to claim 9, wherein said next power-up date and time given to each power supply control device is obtained by any of said information processing devices or each of said information processing devices adding an arbitrary margin to a power-up date and time in a power-up/down schedule stored in said power-up/down schedule storage unit.

11. (currently amended) An information processing device which is a representative information processing device in a plurality of information processing devices in a computer system in which a power supply control device is provided for each of the plurality of information processing devices connected to a network, comprising:

a power-up/down schedule storage unit storing predetermined power-up/down schedules of said representative information processing device and other information processing devices;

a power-up instruction unit instructing each power supply control device of other information processing devices to perform a power-up process at each activation process;

a power-down instruction unit instructing each power supply control device to perform a power-down process and notifying each power supply control device of a next power-up date and time each time power-down date and time comes according to said predetermined power-up/down schedule;

a power-down permission condition storage unit for storing a power-down permission condition of a predetermined current and other information processing devices; and

does not give the power-down instruction and the next power-up date and time before a power-down permission condition is satisfied although the power-down date and time comes.

12. (original) The information processing device according to claim 9 , wherein said power-up instruction or power-down instruction is sequentially issued at predetermined startup intervals or power-down intervals.

13. (currently amended) A power supply control device in a computer system in which a power supply control device is provided for each of a plurality of information processing devices connected to a network, comprising:

a power-down unit storing a next power-up date and time when the next power-up date and time is received together with a power-down instruction, and performing a power-down process on an information processing device of a current system; and

a power-up unit performing a power-up process on the current information processing device when a power-up instruction is received or said stored power-up date and time comes.

14. (original) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program used to direct a computer to realize the functions of:

instructing each power supply control device of other information processing devices to perform a power-up process at each activation process; and

instructing each power supply control device to perform a power-down process and notifying each power supply control device of a next power-up date and time each time power-down date and time comes according to a predetermined power-up/down schedule.

15. (original) A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave storing a computer program used to direct a computer to realize the functions of:

instructing each power supply control device of other information processing devices to perform a power-up process at each activation process; and

instructing each power supply control device to perform a power-down process and notifying each power supply control device of a next power-up date and time each time power-down date and time comes according to a predetermined power-up/down schedule.

16. (previously presented) A power supply control method for a plurality of information processing devices, comprising:

issuing, by one of said information processing devices, a power-up instruction to each of the other information processing devices upon each activation;

notifying, by said one of said information processing devices, each of the other information processing devices of a next power-up date and time;  
entering said next power-up date and time in each of the other information processing devices;  
instructing, by said one of said information processing devices, each of the other information processing devices to perform a power-down process; and  
performing a power-up process of each the other information processing devices when the next power-up date and time comes if no further power-up instruction has been received from said one of said information processing devices.

17. (currently amended) A power supply control method, comprising:  
providing power-up and power-down instructions dates and times to control power consumption of plural computers; and  
~~notifying the performing computers of a power-up of said plural computers if a date and time when for a power-down up arrives and no~~ instruction is provided.